

Federal Council BULLETIN

Vol. XXII, No. 2

February, 1939



An Enduring Word

“Let us keep the purpose of unity firm in our hearts and look on all Christians as brothers beloved. It is by practicing unity that we shall gain unity.”

*—The late Rt. Rev. Charles H. Brent,
in opening sermon at first World Conference on Faith and Order.*



A JOURNAL OF INTERCHURCH COÖPERATION

Coming Events

A calendar of the more important national meetings of church organizations, so far as known to the BULLETIN, is published monthly in this column.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Chicago, Ill. February 6-14, 1939

WORLD ALLIANCE OF PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED CHURCHES, WESTERN SECTION

Pittsburgh, Pa. February 28-March 1, 1939

UNITING CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN METHODISM

Kansas City, Mo. April 26, 1939

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.

Cleveland, Ohio. May 25, 1939

THIRD BIENNIAL INSTITUTE, A MOVEMENT FOR WORLD CHRISTIANITY

New York, N. Y. May 30-June 2, 1939

ANNUAL CONFERENCE, CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Anderson, Ind. June 7-13, 1939

REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA

New York, N. Y. June 8, 1939

NORTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

Los Angeles, Calif. June 20-25, 1939

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND B.Y.P.U. CONGRESS OF THE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, U.S.A., (INC.)

Tulsa, Okla. June 21-25, 1939

WORLD CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIAN YOUTH

Amsterdam, Holland. July 24-August 2, 1939

CONTINUATION COMMITTEE, WORLD CONFERENCE ON FAITH AND ORDER

Clarens, Switzerland. August 21-24, 1939

NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, U.S.A. (INC.)

Philadelphia, Pa. September 6-10, 1939

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Richmond, Va. October 19-25, 1939

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Federal Council Bulletin

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VOL. XXII, No. 2

FEBRUARY, 1939

THE EDITORIAL OUTLOOK

For Persecuted and Suffering People

(This Act of Intercession should occupy a considerable space of time by reason of spaces of silence left between each petition wherein the group or congregation makes silent prayer, and wherein the leader may interpolate extempore or composed prayers according to his choice.)

On behalf of the helpless let us make intercession to God Who is our only help in time of need. (Here the Prayer Book Litany or Psalms 79 and 80 may be used.)

Let us first confess that on our own hearts and hands is some taint of the sins we deplore in others. May God cleanse us that we may bring forth works meet for repentance. (*A Silence*)

Let us enter in the Spirit into prisons and concentration camps to share the misery and anguish of all held in duress for righteousness sake, or by reason of race, and faith in God. (*A Silence*)

Let us pray for the Confessional Church of Germany, for Martin Niemoeller, for all persecuted pastors and congregations. (*A Silence*)

Let us pray for the clergy, religious orders and other members of the Roman Catholic Church undergoing oppression. (*A Silence*)

Let us wrestle with God on behalf of the Children of Israel, mocked, despised, and shamefully entreated. (*A Silence*)

Let us remember the Jews of all lands; the stunned, desperate, tortured, innocent victims of demonic hate. (*A Silence*)

Let us remember the anguished, the homeless, sick and starving in Spain, in China, and in all distressed lands. (*A Silence*)

Let us ask God to turn and soften the wicked; to stay the hand of the tormentors; to multiply mercies. (*A Silence*)

Let us ask for Grace abounding, that the more others pour out wrath, the more we may pour out comfort and love; that the more others torture and despoil, the more we will compensate by opening our hearts and purses, our land and our homes to succor the distressed. (*A Silence*)

Lord have mercy, *Christ have mercy*. Lord have mercy.

Psalms 79, 80. The Lord's Prayer. Benediction.

(Prepared by CANON GILBERT SYMONS)

The Christian Attitude Toward Anti-Semitism

Every thoughtful Christian must gratefully acknowledge his spiritual indebtedness to the Hebrews. We Christians have inherited the ethical and religious insights of Israel. We hold them with a difference—at one point with a momentous difference—but we can never forget that the historic roots of our faith are in the Hebrew people.

From Israel we inherit the Ten Commandments, which are still our basic moral standards. From Israel we inherit the priceless treasure of the Psalms, which are an essential part of Christian worship around the world. From Israel we inherit the vision of social justice which has come to us through Amos and Isaiah and Micah. From Israel we inherit even our own unique

Christian classic, the New Testament, nearly all of which (if not all) was written by Jews.

A Christian who faces the modern world must also be conscious of a present spiritual kinship with his Jewish neighbors to whom their religious heritage is still a vital force. That kinship is grounded in our common faith in the ultimate spiritual foundations of the universe. Over against those who adhere to a materialistic philosophy of life and a mechanistic conception of human destiny, we recognize ourselves as at one with the Jews in the first sublime affirmation of the Pentateuch, "In the beginning God." Over against current disillusionment and despair Christian and Hebrew stand together in their belief in the one Holy God Who is the Creator of all and whose righteous will gives meaning and direction to life.

A Christian who knows anything of history must also speak a word of confession. For he cannot help recalling how grievously the Jewish people have suffered at the hands of men who have called themselves Christians. The record of the treatment of Jews in Europe through long centuries is one which Christians of today view with penitence and sorrow. One has also regretfully to admit that the day of cruel treatment of the Jews by some who call themselves Christians is not yet a thing of the past. Even in our own country there are misguided groups which circulate statements that spread a poison of mistrust and hate which is antithetical to the true genius both of America and of the Christian religion. Anti-Semitism is inherently unchristian, contrary to the plain teaching and spirit of our Lord, and it can be asserted with confidence that an intolerant attitude toward the Jews is opposed by the great body of American Christians.

A Christian today must also recognize the practical interests which he shares in common with the Jewish people. If there was formerly any doubt on this point the tragic events in Germany during the last five years must make the fact as plain as noonday. In that unhappy land the National Socialist regime began by proclaiming itself the friend of what it called "positive Christianity" and the enemy of the Jews. But everything which has happened since shows that

what started as a movement against the Jews turns out to be a movement against Christianity also. Today in Germany the whole future of Christianity as well as of the Jews is at stake. The new religious trend known as the "Germanic faith movement," under the leadership of anti-Semites like Alfred Rosenberg and Baldur von Shirach, scorns Christianity as of Jewish origin and would substitute for both Judaism and Christianity a new religion based on German blood. The attempt to de-Judaize a nation threatens to de-Christianize it also.

Thoughts for Race Relations

Sunday: February 12

There are several ways in which Christians can face the racial intolerance and tension which are rampant today. They can rise in vocal indignation and denounce the oppressor. They can, like the good Samaritan, bind up the wounds of survivors and bury the dead after the pogroms, the mobs and the bombings have subsided. They can take their place and suffer along with the victims, as missionaries in Ethiopia and China and as Martin Niemöller and his colleagues in Germany have done.

Christians in America and England can set their own houses in order as the most effective bulwarks against the surging tide of prejudice that beats upon their shores. They can see to it that in the long run even-handed justice comes to the oppressed minorities in their own land. They can do more. They can seek for these exploited and outraged millions within their borders mercy and charity which transcend blind justice.

The British have millions of brown and black people in their colonial "possessions," the United States has millions of Negroes, Indians, Puerto Ricans and others who know from experience what Fascism is, which even when called by another name is just as terrible. The lynching of Negroes, their exclusion from the higher grades of employment; their denial of a fair share of public educational funds and welfare benefits; their forced segregation on purely racial grounds even in sanctuaries of the

churches, cry aloud for the practice of Christian brotherhood.

It may be true—we believe it is—that the surest, the most far-reaching answer to the dictators and totalitarian statesmen who have abolished democratic freedom of speech, of assembly, of movement, of property-holding and of worship, and who drive helpless minorities to their doom, is that Christians in those countries still claiming allegiance to democracy should throw themselves into the crusade for a larger measure of liberty to racial and religious minorities who are their neighbors and fellow citizens.

Christian Education Through the Family

In an address to the alumni of Drew Theological Seminary recently, Professor Samuel L. Hamilton of New York University made an arresting summary of one of the crucial ways in which Christianity can be strengthened:

- “1. The Church cannot fulfill her high calling and serve the present age unless she can win adherents by the millions to her message and program.
- “2. She cannot win these millions outside her membership unless she can produce better and happier living by the men, women and children inside her present membership.
- “3. She cannot produce better persons without employing the processes of Christian education for both sexes and all ages in her membership.
- “4. She cannot hope to do this tremendous task in one or two hours a week within her own walls.
- “5. She must reach out into other institutions in the community and utilize them in the application of the processes which alone can produce Christian character.
- “6. The institution which is potentially the most effective laboratory of Christian living is the home.
- “7. The new strategy called for is the utilization by the Church of this laboratory of Christian living.”

Here is a program in which every local church,—indeed, every Christian,—can begin at once to have a vital part.

United Front of American Christianity

The declaration adopted by the Federal Council's Biennial Meeting in Buffalo in December on the Christian attitude toward religious and racial persecution in Germany and also toward political totalitarianism of both the Nazi and the Communist type, became the basis of a remarkable manifesto in which both Protestant and Catholic bodies united. On the day before Christmas it appeared in the press of the nation over the signatures of Archbishop Mooney, Chairman of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the Presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, the President of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Moderator of the Southern Presbyterian Church, as well as the President of the Federal Council.

This is believed to be the first time when officials of the Roman Catholic Church and of the Protestant bodies have united in a joint declaration to the nation on any subject having to do with the attitude of American Christianity toward public questions. This is a happy indication of the new spirit of religious unity.

Welcome to “Christendom”

The first issue of the quarterly journal *Christendom* as an organ of the ecumenical movement made its appearance last month. Transferred to the American Sections of “Faith and Order” and “Life and Work” by the generous action of Willett, Clark and Co., its former publishers, it is now to further more directly (as it has done indirectly since its beginning) the interests of the projected World Council of Churches.

Readers of the BULLETIN will feel the deepest interest in *Christendom*. It is devoted to a cause which the Federal Council has long rejoiced to serve. It has as its Editor Dr. H. Paul Douglass, Secretary of the Federal Council's Commission for the Study of Christian Unity.

We extend an exuberant welcome and believe that, as a scholarly and thoughtful review of the world-wide movement for Christian unity, *Christendom* will have a unique place. And we cannot refrain from suggesting that our readers promptly subscribe for *Christendom*. (Three dollars a year, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York.)

Departmental Personnel, 1939-40

AT the first meeting of the Federal Council's Executive Committee for the new biennium, held on January 20, 1939, under the chairmanship of Dr. George A. Buttrick, the following were elected as the heads of the several departmental committees:

Evangelism—Rev. C. Jeffares McCombe, Chairman; Bishop J. S. Stamm, Vice-Chairman.

Field—Rev. Herman N. Morse, Chairman; Mrs. Orrin R. Judd, Vice-Chairman.

Research and Education—Prof. Justin W. Nixon, Chairman; Mrs. John H. Finley, Vice-Chairman.

Social Service—Rt. Rev. Charles K. Gilbert, Chairman; Prof. John C. Bennett, Vice-Chairman.

International Justice and Goodwill—Pres. James H. Franklin, Chairman; Pres. Albert W. Palmer, Vice-Chairman.

Race Relations—Mrs. Lucius R. Eastman, Bishop John A. Gregg, Co-Chairmen.

Churches Abroad—Prof. William Adams Brown, Chairman; Pres. Albert W. Beaven, Vice-Chairman.

Religious Radio—Rev. Theodore F. Savage, Chairman; Rev. J. C. Hazen, Vice-Chairman.

As Chairmen of permanent commissions and committees, the following were named:

Christian Unity—Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, Chairman.

Worship—Rev. Oscar Thomas Olson, Chairman.

Religion and Health—Prof. Howard Chandler Robbins, Chairman; Edward H. Hume, M.D. and Prof. Henry P. Van Dusen, Vice-Chairmen.

Financial and Fiduciary Matters—Mr. George A. Huggins, Chairman.

Town and Country—Rev. T. A. Tripp, Chairman.

Miss Mary E. Woolley was named Chairman and Mrs. Henry Sloane Coffin, Vice-Chairman of the Women's Coöperating Commission. Mr. Francis S. Harmon was named Chairman of the Laymen's Coöperating Commission.

Other committee chairmen are as follows:

Marriage and the Home—Prof. Ernest R. Groves, Chairman; Rev. E. P. Westphal, Vice-Chairman.

Industrial—Rev. J. Howard Melish, Chairman.

Church and Coöperatives—Rev. J. Henry Carpenter, Chairman; Rev. Leslie B. Moss, Vice-Chairman.

Prison Chaplains—Prof. Arthur L. Swift, Chairman.

Religious Work on the Canal Zone—Rev. Thomas S. Donohugh, Chairman.

Midwest Committee—Rev. Herbert L. Willett, Chairman.

The secretarial personnel, as elected by the Executive Committee on January 20, is as follows:

Rev. Samuel McCrea Cavert, General Secretary

Rev. Jesse M. Bader, Executive Secretary, Department of Evangelism

Rev. Walter W. Van Kirk, Executive Secretary, Department of International Justice and Goodwill

Rev. Roswell P. Barnes, Associate Secretary, Department of International Justice and Goodwill

Rev. F. Ernest Johnson, Executive Secretary, Department of Research and Education

Dr. Benson Y. Landis, Associate Secretary, Department of Research and Education

Dr. George E. Haynes, Executive Secretary, Department of Race Relations

Miss Katherine Gardner, Associate Secretary, Department of Race Relations

Frank C. Goodman, Executive Secretary, Department of National Religious Radio

Rev. Henry Smith Leiper, Executive Secretary, Department of Relations with Churches Abroad

Rev. J. Quinter Miller, Executive Secretary, Field Department

Rev. James Myers, Industrial Secretary, Department of the Church and Social Service

Rev. L. Foster Wood, Secretary, Committee on Marriage and the Home, Department of the Church and Social Service

Rev. H. Paul Douglass, Executive Secretary, Commission for the Study of Christian Unity

Rev. Seward Hiltner, Executive Secretary, Committee on Religion and Health

Rev. Deane Edwards, Executive Secretary, Committee on Worship

Miss Aenid A. Sanborn, Editorial Secretary

Miss Anna E. Caldwell, Secretary, Women's Coöperating Commission

John M. Johansen, Assistant Treasurer

New Seminar on Pacific Area

A unique undertaking for helping ministers and other American religious workers to gain a fuller understanding of the situation in the Far East has been initiated by Dr. Henry W. Luce in collaboration with the Silver Bay Association. Dr. Luce was for many years connected with higher educational work in China and later was professor of missions in China at the Hartford Theological Seminary. In 1935-1936 he spent fourteen months in a journey around the world, spending most of the time in China and Japan. The new project is based upon his experience in the Rochester-Auburn Summer School in 1938, where so much interest was aroused in his interpretation of the problems of the Pacific area that a more ambitious plan for 1939 at Silver Bay on Lake George, N. Y., has been outlined.

The Seminar at Silver Bay will continue from July 17 to July 29. The cost of board and room for the entire period will be \$28.00 and the tuition fee covering 33 seminar hours, 9 evening lectures and extensive mimeographed materials as a guide to study, will be \$15.00. The course is designed to enable its members to interpret the Pacific area in their own communities.

Detailed information can be had from Mr. Charles A. Herschleb, Director of the Silver Bay Association, 347 Madison Avenue, New York, or Dr. H. W. Luce, Haverford, Pa.

The Lima Conference and the Churches

By WALTER W. VAN KIRK

(A 36-page pamphlet by Dr. Van Kirk, summarizing the recommendations of the Lima Conference, which he attended, can be had for 10 cents from the Federal Council's Department of International Justice and Goodwill—EDITOR.)

THE Pan-American Conference which met in Lima, Peru, in December is of significance to the American churches. Both the churches and the Conference seek to promote the spirit of international understanding and goodwill among the nations of the Western Hemisphere. Churchmen approach this task in their own way, statesmen in theirs; but there is much common ground. Both are interested in an intellectual and cultural exchange. To share with each other the accomplishments of the various republics in such broad fields as education, art, literature and music cannot but enrich the civilization of the Western World. At the Buenos Aires Conference in 1936, a Convention was signed providing for the promotion of inter-American cultural relations. The United States, Brazil, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic have ratified this Convention and all of the American States are expected in time to do likewise. The State Department has already set up a section to encourage such exchange. Under the terms of this Convention there will be organized a system of student and teacher exchanges whereby every American government will grant each year two fellowships to graduate students or teachers from each of the contracting countries.

The Lima Conference recommended that those countries which as yet have not done so ratify this Convention and that those countries which have ratified proceed to organize the interchange of students and professors provided for in that agreement. It was further recommended that endowments, scholarships and other resources necessary to make the interchange of students more effective and broader in scope, be increased with the aid of interested private and official agencies. It would be interesting to speculate upon the comparative values of cultural exchange and battleships for the purpose of strengthening inter-American solidarity! Other actions of the Lima gathering bearing upon cultural co-operation included recommendations supporting the early completion of the Pan-American Highway; interchanges between libraries; mutual recognition of degrees from institutions of higher learning; the establishment in each country of radio broadcasting services for cultural dissemination and inter-American *rapprochement*; publication by the Pan-American Union of biographies of American women who have distinguished themselves by their social, economic, political, scientific or literary achievements; and improvement of communication facilities on the American Continent.

It is important that the churches concern themselves more than hitherto with the task of accomplishing a

spiritual *rapprochement* between the American states. The people of the United States are pathetically ignorant when it comes to the ways and customs and patterns of thought of the Latin American people. The peace of the Western Hemisphere will be further advanced through programs of cultural co-operation than through vast armaments. Let us exchange students and professors. Let us enlarge facilities for good radio programs in both directions. Let us complete the Pan-American Highway over which the people of North and South America may shuttle back and forth on errands of goodwill and understanding. The price of one or two battleships, if applied to the task of intellectual and cultural exchange, would go far toward preserving the peace of the Western Hemisphere. If the people of the United States really desire to promote peace in this part of the world, let them seriously buckle down to the task of sharing more completely in the cultural, spiritual and intellectual life of Central and South America.

The Lima Conference took a united stand against racial and religious persecution. This statement was not at all to the liking of certain propagandists whose voices were raised in the conference corridors in opposition to such a declaration. But the resolution was adopted and by a unanimous vote. All delegations joined in declaring that "within the fundamental principle of equality before the law, all persecutions for racial and religious motives, which make it impossible for a portion of human beings to obtain a decent livelihood, are contrary to political and juridical rules." This resolution places the Western Hemisphere squarely against the insanity of racial and religious persecution. It demonstrates that the American States are doing their own thinking in their own way and within the general pattern of racial and religious freedom.

It will be of interest to the churches to know that the Lima Conference adopted a resolution calling upon the Pan-American Union to consider the practicability of convening at an early date a world economic conference. The Federal Council has been and is now deeply interested in the idea of world conference as against world conflict. The action taken at Lima should hearten those who feel it may yet be possible to stay the hand of war.

Stewardship Program

"The Christian's attitude toward his possessions" is the theme of the United Stewardship Council's program for 1939. Plans are under way for the observance of 1940 as a Stewardship Year, and special committees have been appointed to consider various phases and report at the Council meeting in Toronto, March 7-9.

News from the Madras Conference

AS the BULLETIN goes to press the first reports are reaching this country from the great conference of the International Missionary Council held in Madras, India, during the latter part of December. The indications are unmistakable that the gathering marked a new stage in the development of the life of the Christian churches, especially those of Asia, Africa, South America and the Pacific Islands. Fully one-half of the delegates came from the churches of these countries. Out of 464 delegates, 49 came from the United States.

Drawing its members from all the major countries of the globe, the conference was a moving demonstration of the worldwide character of the Christian movement of today. The ecumenical movement, which had been the center of interest at Oxford and at Edinburgh in 1937, was seen even more clearly at Madras as something which transcends national and racial boundaries and gathers Christians of both East and West into a single world fellowship.

The chairmen and secretaries of commissions appointed by the Madras Conference as it began its work, included the following from this country:

Dr. Henry P. Van Dusen, Chairman of the Commission on "The Faith by which the Church Lives";

Bishop James C. Baker, Chairman of the Commission on "The Inner Life of the Church";

Dr. Edward Hume, Chairman of the Commission on "The Relation of Christian Medical Work to the Christian Missionary Purpose";

Dr. Fred F. Goodsell, Chairman of the Commission on "The Place, Work and Training of the Future Missionary";

Dr. Ralph Diffendorfer, Chairman of the Commission on "An Adequate Literature Program";

Dr. Douglas Horton, Secretary of the Commission on "The Church; Its Nature and Function".

In the opening address Dr. John R. Mott, to whom everyone looked as the Chairman of the great world gathering and who has been at the very center of the world Christian movement since the first great ecumenical conference held in Edinburgh in 1910, reminded the gathering of the critical moment in which the conference meets. He emphasized the bitterness, strife, fear and uncertainty of the world today, but against this background he set his own unshakable convictions as to ultimate triumph of the Christian faith. He created a mood of hopefulness as he outlined the resources of the Christian movement around the world today, and reminded the delegates of the manifestations of the spirit of God at work in the world.

The second day of the conference was set aside for prayer and meditation. The Bishop of Dornakal, South India, in leading the opening period, took as his theme the churches of Asia, described in the first chapter of the Book of Revelation. He held that the churches of today

are enduring tribulations, which makes their experience strikingly similar to that of the churches in the first century. He appealed to Christians around the world to manifest the same spirit which characterized the Christians in the early days of the Church in the Roman Empire.

Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa of Japan spoke upon the meaning of the Cross and the significance of the Cross for the redemption of both personal and social life.

At the beginning of this month a group of the leaders of the Christian movement in other lands are coming to this country from the Madras Conference and will be speakers in a series of Post-Madras Conferences in different parts of America. Two different groups will move across the nation. The leadership of one will include Dr. Hachiro Yuasa of Japan, Dr. Rajah B. Manikam of India and Miss Minnie Soga of South Africa. The leadership of the second will be made up of Dr. Baez Camargo of Mexico, Dr. P. C. Hsu of China and Miss Ila Sircar of India.

Dr. Yuasa is President of the Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan, the largest Christian college in that country. Dr. Manikam is secretary of the National Christian Council of India. Miss Sircar is one of the leading Christian women of India, Associate General Secretary of the Student Christian Movement in that country. Miss Soga is a teacher in Lovedale Missionary Institute and is a leader among the Christian Bantu women in South Africa. Dr. Camargo, the Executive Secretary of the National Council of Evangelical Churches of Mexico, is prominent in the educational and literary life of that country. Professor Hsu, holds a doctorate from Columbia University and is a professor of Philosophy at the University of Shanghai.

Aid for Spanish Children

The 1938 project of the Committee on World Friendship Among Children in behalf of the children in Spain is being continued during the early months of 1939. The project calls for the sending of attractive small suitcases filled with gifts of clothing, toys, soap, etc., to the needy children in Spain, especially those who are separated from their homes by the war. Each suitcase contains a letter of friendship and a map of the United States with a star indicating the city from which the case is sent. The suitcases are distributed in Spain by the American Friends Service Committee (Quaker) with which the Federal Council of Churches is co-operating.

The suitcases may be secured from the Committee on World Friendship Among Children, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York, at one dollar each. When filled, they are returned to the Committee, which dispatches them to Spain.

American Christians and Chinese Need

By HARPER SIBLEY

Chairman of the Church Committee for China Relief, former President of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce

WHEN I think of China today, in her extreme need, I do not think merely of vast over-populated areas and stricken millions; I think of those Chinese whom I came to know personally during four months in China in 1932—the friendly and courteous men, women and children. Particularly, I think today of that young band of splendid Christian leaders all through China whom I came to know.

I saw them under normal conditions, but I saw them also under abnormal conditions—in the hour of extremity. We went up the Yangtse River, after the terrific spring flood of 1932, in a ship carrying American flour to the refugees. Along the river bank there were approximately 300,000 men, women and children clinging to the tops of the dykes—this was in January and February—without food or shelter. As we went from group to group distributing flour, I shall never forget the stark human misery of these men and women. Dysentery, cholera, typhoid ran all through the groups.

Terrible as that was, it was a very small disaster compared with the present situation. In this crisis in China there are said to be thirty millions who have been forced to evacuate their homes. Perhaps there never have been in all history so many people in forced flight seeking refuge. You can imagine their condition! I need not dwell on that, except to ask, "What can we do about it?"

There is in China a strong responsible group known as the American Advisory Committee, that already is caring for thousands of refugees. On that Committee are American business men and representatives of the major American missionary boards. I can assure you that these men will put to use every dollar we can send them in saving human lives.

I have just received the following message from Rt. Rev. W. P. Roberts, Episcopal Bishop of the Missionary District of Shanghai, who is working with the American Advisory Committee: "The greatest needs in the occupied areas are food, shelter, warm clothes for the winter, medical attention and rehabilitation. So far, very little money has been allocated for rehabilitation, most money going for direct relief and medical attention. The Chinese people as a whole are living on terribly low rations and relief is going to be needed for a long time to come. Areas south of the Yellow River are going to need very urgent help this winter. The only effective agencies for administering relief in occupied areas have been Christian missions. In the unoccupied areas, there must be millions crowding into the cities. There are undoubtedly great needs for help in the Upper Yangtse regions and in southwest China."

To Bishop Roberts' graphic statement of China's need and to the urgent messages received from other missionary groups over there let me add a word about Dr. John Earl Baker, Relief Director of the American Advisory Committee in Shanghai. Dr. Baker is an engineer who has been working for the Chinese Government—he has been building railways and highways. In every relief or famine program in China in recent years, Dr. Baker has been one of the chief leaders. He knows the Chinese intimately, and, better than anyone else, he will make dollars help the refugee peoples.

The rate of exchange is extremely favorable so that today one American dollar translated into Chinese dollars will feed a man or woman for at least thirty days. So you will see that even one dollar in American money is tremendously worth sending over.

Can the American people sit idly by when there is something so definite that can be done and must be done for all these desperate people? No matter how small or how large, let each one of us in America give what we can. Our Church Committee for China Relief (105 East 22nd Street, New York) says: "Let there be One Million Gifts of American Friendship for China Relief."

Lenten Fellowship of Prayer

Beginning with Ash Wednesday, February 22, hundreds of thousands of church members and families will be making daily use of the 1939 edition of the Fellowship of Prayer.

Prepared by Dr. Gaius Glenn Atkins of Auburn Theological Seminary, it is being circulated in an interdenominational edition by the Federal Council's Department of Evangelism. Although published as an attractive booklet of forty pages in pocket size with an attractive two-color cover, the Fellowship of Prayer is sold at only two cents per copy, plus postage. This price is made possible because of the large quantity in which the publication is issued.

Many local churches order the Fellowship of Prayer at \$2.00 per hundred in sufficient quantities to make it available for every member.

This is the twenty-first year in which the Fellowship of Prayer has been issued. It was initiated by the Congregational Commission on Evangelism and the Devotional Life, which continues to carry the editorial responsibility.

The Save the Children Fund

HE who travels in the mountains of the South will see some of the most beautiful scenery in the United States. If he stops and learns how people are trying to live on those mountains and in the valleys he will come face to face with one of the most appealing needs in our land.

For a week recently six of us experienced this. We were accompanying Dr. John R. Voris, President of the Save the Children Fund, as he inspected a number of its stations. All of us saw in the mountains, with increasing concern, the great contrast between the beauty and the need.

In a county courthouse we participated in a conference with citizens brought together by the Save the Children Fund worker there—a woman who has faith in people and no fear of work. In the conference were the county superintendent of public instruction, the principal of the local high school, two or three rural teachers, the secretary of the parent-teacher association, the county welfare officer, the president of the farm bureau, two farmers, the president of the county-seat chamber of commerce, two clergymen, a retired teacher of the American Missionary Association, helping as a volunteer, and others numbering thirty who were coöperating.

Dr. Voris reminded all that the Save the Children Fund is not an organization residing in the Metropolitan Tower, New York, but is in such groups as this, coöperating for the sake of needy children in a number of states. As we saw how the representatives of social, religious, civil, political and educational groups, recognizing some responsibility, responded to and in fact looked for leadership, we were more conscious of a movement than of an organization. As one who has given a large portion of his life to organizing coöperation, I have never seen more done for so little a budget expense than we saw in that week.

The county superintendent of schools said there were 2,600 children in the schools at that time; that when winter comes 700 will be absent because they have no shoes, that 25 percent of those who drop out will never return. This explains illiteracy statistics. The Save the Children Fund has, through contributions, obtained and distributed thousands of pairs of shoes in the course of its work in the mountains. It has secured donations of hundreds of school desks and seats and has obtained from discarded supplies of schools, libraries, publishers and individuals, more than 300,000 books. Circulating libraries and permanent school libraries in some mountain sections have resulted. Many of these children are hungry. Rickets and other ailments are very common. Last year, hundreds of gallons of cod liver oil were dispensed with malted milk, powdered milk, Ovaltine and "just milk," with amazing results. Northern towns under local leadership are yoking up with single

schools or districts or counties to help. Tons of clothing have been secured through generous givers to the Fund and sent into the mountains for the children, enabling thousands to keep warm and to stay in school. All the members of our party were deeply stirred by what they saw and heard.

What is written here is only to introduce the Save the Children Fund to those who are not yet acquainted with its work. Further information may be had from 1 Madison Avenue, New York.

Roy B. GUILD.

Prizes for Lincoln Sermons

Prizes for the best sermon on the character of Abraham Lincoln in memory of Dr. John D. Long, author of "The Life Story of Abraham Lincoln," are offered by his widow and son in a competition which closes on March 1, 1939.

The Judging Committee consists of: Rev. Phillips Packer Elliott, First Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., Chairman; Rev. Anthony H. Evans, West-Park Presbyterian Church, New York; and Rev. Dr. John A. Ingham, Stated Clerk of the Reformed Church in America

The first award will be a bronze plaque of Lincoln and \$100 in cash. There is an award of \$50 for second place. The bronze plaque has been made especially for the occasion by Challis Walker. The competition is open to any ordained minister of the Gospel.

The late Dr. John D. Long was a graduate of Union Theological Seminary and held various pastorates in the Metropolitan area and in Chicago. His conception of Lincoln was widely commented upon for its emphasis on the human qualities of Lincoln, his humor, his love of the outdoors, his tolerance and love of the common man.

The rules of the competition are as follows:

1. The sermon is to be on the character of Abraham Lincoln, using "The Life Story of Abraham Lincoln" by the late John D. Long as a basis, not however treating the subject as a review of the book, and not being bound by its point of view.
2. The sermon is to be not over 3,000 words in length, submitted in typewritten form, double-spaced on one side of the paper.
3. Manuscripts are to be postmarked not later than March 1, 1939, and addressed to the Lincoln Sermon Committee, 3041 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
4. Each manuscript should be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope.

The awards will be made as soon as possible after the closing date, and not later than May 15, 1939.

Council Moves Toward World Conference

STEPS already taken by the Department of International Justice and Goodwill and further plans for a world conference on immediate international problems were approved by the Executive Committee of the Council at its meeting on January 20. A memorandum submitted by the Department took its charter of policy from a section of the Oxford Conference Report on the conditions of peaceful change.

In describing the responsibility of the universal Church in the world of nations today, the memorandum stated:

"Relations between the nations are strained or broken in many instances. There is increasing difficulty of communication and intercourse, government censorship, the withdrawal of ambassadors, mutual recrimination of public officials, state control of press and the prevalence of nationalistic interest in the secular press. Not only are there these physical and tangible barriers to intercourse but the psychological and spiritual barriers appear to be increasing.

"In the face of this situation some church groups have implored governments to resort to conference, but it appears that conference on a world scale by official representatives of governments has been abandoned.

"However, what is accepted as an *impasse* to intercourse and conference by governments need not be so accepted by the churches. The churches can still use the conference process."

The Executive Committee adopted a resolution requesting the American members of the Provisional Committee of the World Council of Churches "to invite the latter Committee (a) to call a preliminary world conference in the summer of 1939 for the purpose of studying proposals looking toward the just and peaceful solution of current international problems, and (b) to promote the interchange of information and opinion between Christians of various nations, especially between those who find such intercourse difficult because of international tensions; or that, if the Provisional Committee should not assume this responsibility, it be urged to invite some other international agency of the churches to assume it."

Three recommendations of the Department were approved as follows:

- A. "There should be convened at the earliest practicable date a special American advisory committee of Christian laymen who are competent experts in the fields of international economics, politics, and trade as well as in the fields of history and law. Such committee would assist in producing informational pamphlet material and other educational resources on the needs and grievances of the nations and the proposed solutions. It would also assist in the preparation of the American delegation to the preliminary world conference.
- B. "There should be convened a conference of American religious journalists, educators and leaders of the various communions to promote the study of these problems in the churches.

C. "The American churches should continue to urge upon our own government the assertion of a bolder leadership in the direction of negotiation and conference."

Mr. Barnes, speaking for the Department, reported the probability that the World Alliance for International Friendship through the Churches would coöperate in the convening of the preliminary conference sometime during the coming summer in Europe.

The steps which have been taken and the further plans outlined are in line with the action of the Biennial Meeting of the Federal Council at Buffalo.

The Christian Mission of 1940

Acting upon the decision of the Biennial Meeting of the Federal Council of Churches, held in Buffalo in December, the special committee appointed to prepare for the "National Christian Mission" to begin October 1, 1940, began its work at a session on January 13, under the chairmanship of Dr. William Hiram Foulkes, former Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. Dr. Foulkes brings to his new position his valuable experience as Chairman of the Committee on the National Preaching Mission of 1936.

Among the preliminary decisions which were made on January 13 were the following:

1. The Mission will begin on October 1, 1940, and continue until Easter, April 13, 1941. During this period twenty major centers of population will be visited.
2. Each Mission will continue for one week in order to allow ample time for making the fullest possible impress upon the community.
3. The Christian forces of other lands will be invited, either through the Provisional Committee of the World Council of Churches or otherwise, to hold similar Christian missions simultaneously. In this way it is hoped that a world Christian mission will develop.
4. A statement of purpose will soon be prepared setting forth the objectives of the Mission in a clear and concise way. It is expected that this will emphasize both the deepening of the Christian life of those who are already in the churches and the bringing of the Christian message to those who are now quite un-churched.

5. Special effort will be made to carry the message of the Mission to the diverse groups in the life of the community. Instead of concentrating upon meetings held in churches, speakers will go to high schools, parent-teachers' associations, women's meetings, luncheon clubs, shops and factories, labor headquarters, chambers of commerce, etc.

6. Preceding the National Christian Mission, one year will be devoted to the holding of a World Fellowship of Prayer. A special Committee has been appointed to begin at once on the working out of appropriate prayer plans.

Home Missions and Social Trends

THE Home Missions Council held its thirty-first annual meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, January 6-10. The reports from all committees revealed an active and successful year. The budget was balanced and provision made for an advance program in coöperation along many lines.

The retiring President, Dr. E. D. Kohlstedt, made a plea for greater unity and in particular for pooling all home missionary interests in work such as that among the Indians and in Alaska, through methods similar to the coöperative program in the Dominican Republic.

The Executive Secretary in his annual report called attention to the necessity of facing comity and coöperation with greater aggressiveness. He pointed out that most of comity to date had been of a negative quality—getting out of each other's way—and asked that the mission boards now consider more comity projects along positive lines. He made a plea that mission boards experiment with such projects as the Delta Farms Coöperative and enter the field of social service work among the new underprivileged in both urban and rural centers.

The Joint Committee on Indian Work reported that arrangements had been made for an enlarged program and budget for the coming year. A most successful seminar had just been held with the Office of Indian Affairs in Washington.

The coöperative home mission work at Boulder City, Nev.; Grand Coulee, Wash.; Bonneville, Ore., and the Cumberland Homesteads, Tenn., goes forward with increasing interest. Another project has just been included, Shasta Dam, Cal., where a young woman has been placed to coöperate with the pastors of Redding, the nearest town, to carry on a united religious ministry at this new government development.

A two-day conference on Home Missions and Social Trends followed the business sessions. The guest speakers were Dr. Will W. Alexander of the Farm Security Administration; Prof. Arthur E. Holt of Chicago Theological Seminary; Dr. Harold Bosley of Baltimore, Md.; Miss Katharine F. Lenroot of the Department of Labor; A. J. Muste of Labor Temple, New York, and Prof. Arthur H. Raper of the Southern Interracial Commission. The object was to present up-to-date information relative to social and religious needs in America and to restate the home mission task in the light of the situation. Some of the questions that were raised as a means of approach were as follows:

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What are some of the social frontiers of our generation and how do they compare with the social frontiers that were the basis of home missions in the earlier years?

What effect upon home missions will the problems arising from technological unemployment have?

What are the new issues that are created for home missions in an economy of abundance as contrasted with an economy of scarcity?

What is the meaning for home missions of the new trends toward peasantry?

Does the restricted program of immigration call for a revamping of the program among foreign-language groups?

What will be the effect of the several attempts at rehabilitation, resettlement, and programs of social security of the Government upon home missions?

Do the developing health and educational programs of federal and state agencies require a reconsideration of these services by home mission boards?

Do the new and enlarged communities create a different geographical and social unit for the Church in town and country areas, and how do they affect the task of home missions?

Dr. Homer McMillan, Executive Secretary of the Executive Committee of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S., was elected President of the Home Missions Council, and Dr. George Pitt Beers, Executive Secretary of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, Vice-President. Mr. James C. Gripp of the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., was elected Treasurer, and Miss Merle Gripman was elected Assistant Treasurer and Office Secretary to succeed Miss A. M. Behrens, who retired after fourteen years of efficient service.

MARK A. DAWBER.

Dr. Guild on Canal Zone

Rev. Roy B. Guild, Secretary Emeritus of the Federal Council's Field Department and now Secretary of the Committee on Religious Work on the Canal Zone, sailed at the end of December to spend several weeks on the Zone in the interest of the united Christian work there. During his visit Dr. Guild will participate in the dedication of the Union Churches at Pedro Miguel and Gatun. He is also counselling with the Christian leaders on the Zone on the development of the fifth Union Church which was organized in the new town of Gamboa last year.

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New Library for Federal Council

The Department of Research and Education has recently received a grant totaling \$20,000, to be paid at a decreasing rate over a period of years, for the reorganization and reclassification of the Federal Council's library—which the Department administers—for the purchase of new library equipment and for the major cost of administration. The grant was made pursuant to an application in which the purpose was set forth of developing a specialized library of Christian coöperation covering the various fields in which the Federal Council is attempting to give leadership to its constituent bodies.

Duplication with other libraries will be carefully avoided. On the other hand, coöperative relations will be maintained with the well-equipped libraries of religion, education and the social sciences which are located in New York. Among those near at hand which will be constant resources are the Russell Sage Library and the religious education library of the Greater New York Federation of Churches.

In addition to providing a small reading room for the consultation of reference works the library contemplates bibliographic service on a larger scale than has been possible hitherto. An effort will be made to furnish to religious and educational publications, ministers, teachers and advanced students information that will facilitate research in the several fields covered by the library.

IMPORTANT NEW BOOKS

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Miss Agnes H. Campbell of the Russell Sage Library in New York, who was formerly a member of the Department's staff, will assume the duties of librarian on February 1. Installation of new equipment and reclassification of books will, of course, require some time, but attention will be given as early as possible to requests for library service.

—F. ERNEST JOHNSON.

A Children's Fellowship of Prayer

Here is something valuable for parents and pastors for use during the Lenten period in the guidance of boys and girls in daily devotions. It is beautifully written for children under fourteen years of age. The booklet is entitled, "Thoughts of God for Boys and Girls" and is prepared by recognized leaders in the field of childhood and youth.

The price is ten cents per copy. A discount is given for quantity orders. Send all orders to:

Connecticut Council of Churches and
Religious Education,
18 Asylum Street, Hartford, Conn.

"Brotherhood Week" February 19-26

Brotherhood Week this year will be observed February 19-26, under the auspices of the National Conference of Jews and Christians in 2,000 communities. The theme of the observance will be "Democracy and Freedom," since Brotherhood Week occurs within the period designated for commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the signing and the ratification of the Constitution of the United States. The message for the observance says in part:

"Since the liberties guaranteed to every citizen in the United States by the Constitution are being decried and the very principles upon which democracy is founded are flouted and despised in many parts of the world today, there is urgent need for clear thinking and vigorous action on the part of those who believe in democracy and want to maintain it for themselves and their children. We need to think through afresh some of the things we have long taken for granted. We need a new appreciation of the value of privileges which we have accepted thoughtlessly as our inherent rights.

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"Moreover, we need to face the fact that the threats directed against human liberties menace, not Jews merely, nor Jews and Catholics, but Protestants, Catholics and Jews. Here all groups have a common cause and must stand together."

"Thoughtful citizens of all faiths are determined that America shall be kept free from the suicidal animosities that are disfiguring the common life in other parts of the world today and that those principles of justice, amity and understanding which the fathers of the republic advocated shall be maintained as the true American tradition."

The National Conference of Jews and Christians, 300 Fourth Avenue, New York, sponsors Brotherhood Week.

"Americans All—Immigrants All"

The stirring story of how American culture in the United States has been developed through the combined energies of more than fifty immigrant groups is being dramatized in a series of Sunday afternoon radio programs entitled "Americans All—Immigrants All." The series is sponsored by the U. S. Office of Education, Department of the Interior, with the coöperation of the Service Bureau for Inter-cultural Education and other educational agencies. The purpose is to "promote better understanding for and among all the cultural and racial

groups in this country through a knowledge of the contributions made by each group."

The programs will be heard Sunday at 2:00 P. M., Eastern Standard Time, over a nationwide network of the Columbia Broadcasting System, until May 7.

Surveying Democracy

The February issue of the *Survey Graphic*, 112 East 19th Street, New York, is a special enlarged issue of 148 pages, devoted entirely to the interpretation of democracy. The *Survey Graphic* is offering copies to other agencies for distribution at a special price: 10 copies at 40c each; 25 copies at 30c each; 100 copies at 25c each.

Lists of Biblical Plays

The National Service Bureau of the Federal Theater Project, WPA, has issued two volumes which list and describe Biblical plays for which no royalty is required—one for Old Testament plays and one for New Testament plays. For each play there is a brief synopsis of the action and "production notes," including information as to the source from which it may be secured. These may be obtained from the National Service Bureau, 1697 Broadway, New York, at twenty-five cents for each volume.

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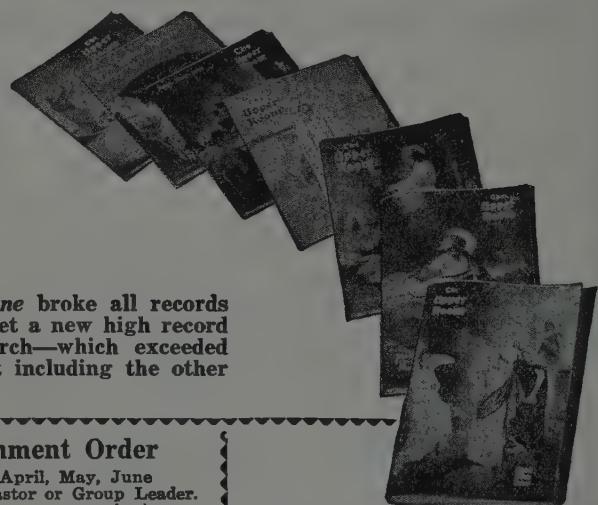
The Upper Room, which according to *Time Magazine* broke all records last year in U. S. religious publishing, has this year set a new high record for one issue—that for January, February, and March—which exceeded 1,000,000 copies in the English edition alone, and not including the other special languages.

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NEWS OF STATE AND LOCAL COÖPERATION

Planning a Coöperative Advance in Montana

The Montana Council of Churches, at its December meeting in Billings, voted to hold a statewide Church Convocation and Preaching Mission in October, 1939. The place will be Great Falls. The dates were tentatively fixed as October 24-26. The theme chosen is "The Church of Christ Confronts the Modern World." The convocation will open on Tuesday with general sessions that afternoon and evening. The forenoons of Wednesday and Thursday will be given to the study of the Oxford and Edinburgh reports, in six parallel seminars. The afternoon of Wednesday and Thursday will be devoted to special seminars for ministers, churchwomen, teachers, church officers and young people. Wednesday evening will be devoted to an interpretation of the World Youth Conference of 1939 at Amsterdam, Holland. The Thursday evening general session will consist of a great hymn festival, with massed choirs from the nearby churches.

Rev. Cecil F. Ristow, of Great Falls, has been chosen as the chairman of the program committee. A plan to secure one hundred sponsors, chosen from all parts of Montana, was approved. The entire plan has received the enthusiastic endorsement of denominational officials and community ministerial associations.

Dr. J. Quinter Miller, of the Federal Council's Field Department, visited Great Falls, Helena, Butte, Bozeman, and Billings to advise with church leaders. He found

them vitally interested in the Montana Council of Churches and especially in the plan for a Church Convocation and Preaching Mission. Everywhere he received words of cordial appreciation for the great Preaching Mission in Billings in 1936.

In considering the coöperative work of the churches in Montana, it seemed clear that programs of work for children, youth, adults, leadership education, evangelism, social action, etc., should be developed around the great trade and population centers of the state. Once every two or three years a great statewide event like the Preaching Mission would be held. In such a way Christian unity would take root through action in local areas. It would be dramatically expressed through fellowship, study, and action in these occasional statewide gatherings. The Montana Council of Churches would then become an agency through which local initiative would be stimulated and guided, the experience of the different centers shared and the corporate functioning of the Church in the state as a whole advanced. In such matters as comity, social legislation, weekday religious education, and women's work, committees of the state council are already functioning.

Nebraska Ministers' Convocation

The Ninth Annual Nebraska Ministers' Convocation, sponsored by the Nebraska Council of Churches and Christian Education, met in Hastings, Nebraska, January 3-5, 1939, with several hundred ministers in attendance. A strong program was conducted covering many phases of church work, including worship, preaching, teaching, and social action, with discussion of

the Church in relation to organized labor and consumers' coöperation. Addresses were made each day by nationally known speakers, including Dr. Albert W. Palmer, Bishop E. W. Praetorius, Prof. A. W. Wehrli, Rev. John B. Ketcham of the International Council of Religious Education, Chicago, and Rev. James Myers of the Federal Council of Churches. Afternoon seminars added to the value of the Convocation. Dr. Alva V. King, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, was Chairman of the Convocation. Mr. Myers also spoke at the Youth Banquet on "Close-ups in Church Social Action," as well as addressing the luncheon meeting of the Presbyterian ministers on the work of the Federal Council.

New Light on Pastoral Problems

"New Light on Pastoral Problems" is the title of a course now being given under the joint auspices of the three church federations of New York City, the appropriate departments of the General and Union Theological Seminaries, and the Federal Council's Committee on Religion and Health. For pastors only, it is being held at the General Theological Seminary. It began January 9, and will last for eight weeks.

Leaders of the course are Dr. Smiley Blanton, Dr. Harry Bone, Rev. Robert E. Brinkman, and Rev. Otis R. Rice. They are being assisted by lecturers including Rev. John W. Suter, Jr., Dr. Karl A. Menninger, Miss Eleanor Neustaedter, Dr. Flanders Dunbar, and Dr. George E. Daniels. The chairman of the committee planning the course is Rev. Norman Vincent Peale. Between twenty-five and thirty ministers have enrolled for the course.

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Conference on Pastoral Care

The Committee on Religion and Health is joining the Clarksburg (W. Va.) Ministerial Union in sponsoring a two-day conference on "Pastoral Care" on February 13 and 14. The conference leaders will be Rev. Seward Hiltner, Secretary of the Committee, Dr. Harry Bone, New York City psychologist, and Rev. Fred C. Kuether, Jr., Chaplain of the U. S. Industrial Reformatory, Chillicothe, Ohio. The chairman of the conference committee is Rev. John F. Nelson of Clarksburg. The Committee hopes to join in sponsorship of similar conferences in other sections of the country.

Worcester Council to Deal with Health

At a recent meeting of the Worcester (Mass.) Council of Churches a department of Religion and Health was organized. Its purpose is to study the problems of health, particularly those of mental health and life adjustment, and to coöperate with the agencies of the community, especially the psychiatric agencies, in the interest of providing a more complete ministry in the community. The new department includes clergymen, physicians, and laymen under the chairmanship of Dr. Walter A. Morgan,

minister of the Chestnut Street Congregational Church. It will work in coöperation with the Federal Council's Committee on Religion and Health.

Kansas City Plans Loyalty Crusade

A loyalty crusade covering the fifteen Sundays from New Year's Day to Easter, has been planned by the Kansas City Council of Churches. The objective is to build loyalty to the great objectives of the Church. The movement is described as "more than a church attendance campaign." Its aim is to make the strongest possible interpretation of the meaning of the Christian Gospel and of its significance for our day, and thereby to win a greater personal allegiance to the Church on the part of the people of the community.

Cincinnati Adds Social Case Worker

By a joint agreement between the Cincinnati (Ohio) Council of Churches and the Associated Charities of that city, Miss Jane Stewart has been assigned to assist the staffs of local churches in their social service work. She will work with the ministers of the city in connection with the problems of relief. She brings to her new work an experience of four years with the Family Consultation Service of the Associated

Charities. She is a graduate of the School of Social Administration at Ohio State University and has pursued special studies at the New York School of Social Work.

United Week of Prayer Services

From many parts of the country evidence has come of a reviving interest in the observance of the Universal Week of Prayer in the opening days of the new year. In Wichita, Kansas, for example, united services were held each evening from January 2 to 8 inclusive, under the auspices of the Council of Churches of that city. Instead of holding a single meeting, services were arranged in five different sections of the city—Downtown, West Side, South East, Near East, and North. The topics for the Week of Prayer as published by the Federal Council's Department of Evangelism, were made the basis of meditation and intercession at the various gatherings.

Boston Continues Spirit of Oxford

One hundred and fifty delegates from ten local churches of the Back Bay area of Boston met in the Old South Church on November 1, 8, and 11, for a program of adult education inspired by the Oxford Conference on Church, Community, and

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing My Great Redeemer's Praise!

SOME portion of the Word of God now appears in more than 1,000 languages and dialects. But a vast field still remains unexplored... possibly one thousand more tongues! And too, many languages now have only a small portion of Scripture available in them. The work is only one aspect of this tremendous task.

Here are a few specific needs of the American Bible Society for this coming year:

1 For translating and publishing St. John in Cuyo, the first portion of the Bible ever to appear in this Philippine Islands dialect.	\$400
2 To continue the skilled revision of the Old Testament in Cantonese spoken by some thirty million people in South China.	\$1,500
3 To provide the difference between the cost of Scripture volumes for the blind and the price at which the Society makes them available.	\$7,500

4 For printing the Old Testament for the Bulus, a people living in the French Cameroons section of Africa.	\$7,000
5 To enable two colporteurs to spread the Word in the face of great difficulties amid hitherto unreach villages in the mountainous Andean section of Peru.	\$1,000
6 To supply the expected demand for 40,000 New Testaments to help steady the lives of boys in our C.C.C. camps	\$2,000
7 For paying the yearly salaries of 15 colporteurs distributing the Scriptures along 550 miles of the river Nile with its thronging Bible-less thousands.	\$4,670

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State. The movement was described as a "Conference on Life and Work." It met in three sections to discuss "Christian Faith and Practice," "The Church and the State," and "World Christianity." A series of findings briefly summarizing the main points brought out in the study is printed in the January issue of *Bay State Church*

Life, the organ of the Massachusetts Council of Churches.

National Americanism Week

At the invitation of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, the churches and their community agencies are being

asked to observe the period from February 12 to 22 as "National Americanism Week." The period is set aside by a statement of the President of the United States. The program includes radio broadcasts, newspaper publicity, a special local observance by public schools and other community agencies.

AMONG THE NEW BOOKS

This Great Business of Being Christian

By EDGAR DEWITT JONES

Harper & Brothers. \$1.25

In this stirring little volume the President of the Federal Council of Churches during the past biennium has voiced his deepest convictions about the Christian ministry and its task in the world today. The volume reflects the vision and dynamic qualities which have characterized Dr. Jones' own ministry and his interdenominational leadership. The "great business" to which he sees the Christian called today, includes "Believing in a Christlike God"; "Forgiving One's Enemies"; "Standing for Christ's Way of Life in a World That Regards His Way as Impracticable"; "The Renunciation of Personal Selfishness and

the Exaltation of Love as the Ruling Passion." An arresting chapter deals with the "Grand Adventure" of preaching, drawing rich illustrative materials from the experience of outstanding ministers. Another chapter interprets "The Audacious Enterprise of Prayer," and suggests that the influence of the Christian will depend far more upon his inner life of fellowship with God than on any other factor. One other great theme runs through the volume: that of Christian unity, which is one of the greatest passions of Dr. Jones' life.

All who have come to know Dr. Jones will cherish this little book because of what they see of him in it, and those who have not known him will be grateful for its many glimpses into his spirit.

S. M. C.

Bible Trails for Children with Holiday By-Paths.

By LULAH KETCHAM ANDERSON

Personally printed at Winter Park, Fla.

This is the record of the way in which one family has used the life of the home for the religious training of the children. The family is that of Bishop and Mrs. William F. Anderson, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, whose summer home on Cape Cod is the annual gathering place of a large group of grandchildren. In connection with the twilight hour of worship each day, Mrs. Anderson has worked out a

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simple program adapted to the interest of children, in connection with which they learn Bible verses, hymns, and prayers. The interest of the smaller children is held by the device of having them select for the successive days Biblical verses beginning with the successive letters of the alphabet.

This reviewer is able to say from happy personal contacts with the family that the plan which Mrs. Anderson has developed really "works." Parents who want to inaugurate some plan for helping their children to become familiar with the Bible and with the practice of prayer will find this little book of positive help. It does not go into the theory of religious education, but it shows how the responsibility for the religious education of children can be fulfilled in the home by the average parent.

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War, Peace and Change

By JOHN FOSTER DULLES

Harper & Bros. \$1.75

One of the foremost international lawyers, who is also an active churchman, gives a trenchant treatment of the fundamental causes of war and of their solution. His primary contention is that wars will recur until processes for achieving peaceful change in conditions that mean injustice are formulated and made effective. To do this requires new political arrangements which will deal with the economic causes of tension and conflict.

The early history of the United States is cited as an historical illustration of the feasibility of working out a political structure through which community of interest among the nations can be established. This involves an abandonment of some measure of sovereignty by nationalist states.

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Evangelism for the World Today

Edited by JOHN R. MOTT

International Missionary Council, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York. \$2.50

Prepared for the World Conference of the Churches held at Madras, India, last month, this is a well-rounded symposium giving a wealth of response to three questions:

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3. What methods and procedures in evangelism have proved most fruitful?

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churches of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, like Kagawa, Bishop Azariah, G. P. Camargo, and Bishop Chitambar.

New Frontiers of Religion

By ARTHUR L. SWIFT, JR.

Macmillan Co. \$2.00

The significance of the sociological approach to religion is the theme of this stimulating study by a member of the faculty of Union Theological Seminary. It begins by examining the origins of religion as a social institution, with special reference to the basic pattern of its functioning in primitive societies and its enduring aspects. This furnishes the perspective for an inquiry into the relation of religion (more particularly Protestantism) to social change. That inquiry falls into two parts: first, the effect of change upon religion; second, the effect of religion upon change.

In surveying the Church as the product of social change, Professor Swift portrays the influence of the scientific temper, of modern industrialization, of rural and of urban conditions. He gives an authentic picture of the status of organized religion in America today and of the different types of churches that have resulted from diverse conditions and needs. In analyzing religion as a factor in producing social change, the relation of the

Church to the community at large and to the state are major subjects of study.

The final section brings the reader face to face with the opportunities of the Church for a more aggressive participation in social education and action, and with some of the newer methods by which this may be accomplished. The contribution of the techniques of group education, of social research, and of psychiatry are pointed out in an illuminating way.

Fables for Parents

By DOROTHY CANFIELD

Harcourt, Brace & Co. \$2.50

In this collection of stories, with literary artistry and a true human touch, the author creates an awareness of the depth of human problems and of the great differences between people. The characters being mostly women and girls, the book is valuable not only for them but equally for men who would understand such people as mothers, wives, sisters and daughters. As to child-training, the implication is that what children need most is understanding parents who take time to live with them in comradeship.

It is fortunate that in addition to all the other valuable books on family life we have this one which rests its case on vivid and subtle portrayal of living people in ordinary situations.

L. F. W.

Can America Lead the World Back to Religion?

THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN A DAY OF CRISIS

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